

84

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/628,996	GANRY, OLIVIER	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Vit W. Miska	2841	

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**
All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are ²⁸~~1-27~~.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/28/2003</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |


Vit Miska
Primary Examiner

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-17 and 20-26 and are allowed because the prior art does not disclose or suggest an apparatus for carrying out a measurement process for measuring a delay through a signal path within an integrated circuit , including a strobe generator for receiving an OSC signal, for generating a signal A and a signal B when the OSC signal is logically false, for generating an OSCOUT signal when the OSC signal is logically true, and a path probe implemented on the IC for receiving a TEST signal and a CAL signal that may be either logically true or logically false, for generating a signal C at the signal path input in response to signal A when the TEST signal is logically true such that the signal path produces a signal D at its output, for receiving signals B and D; for responding to each signal B edge when the CAL signal logically true by generating at least one indicating signal indicating whether signal C changed state before the path probe received the signal B edge, and for responding to each signal B edge when the CAL signal is logically false by generating said least one indicating signal indicating whether signal D changed state before or after the path probe received the signal B edge.

Claims 18-19, and 27-28 are allowed because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a method for measuring rising and falling edge path delays between an input and output of a signal path within an IC , including forming a path probe within the IC proximate to

the signal path, generating and supplying signal A and a signal B to the path probe, wherein signals A and B have edges generated in response to edges of a STROBE signal, wherein a STROBE-to-A edge delay is constant and a STROBE-to-B edge delay is variable, adjusting the STROBE-to-B edge delay to a first delay for which the path probe receives signal B edges and generates signal C edges nearly concurrently, producing a first periodic signal having a period proportional to the first delay; adjusting the STROBE-to-B edge delay to a second delay, producing a second periodic signal having a period proportional to the second delay, and processing the first and second periodic signals to determine the path delay through the signal path.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vit W. Miska whose telephone number is 571-272-2108. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, K. Cuneo can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VM
5/31/2005



Vit Miska
Primary Examiner